Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple

(or, Vanadurga Temple),

Karkala Taluk, Udupi District, Karnataka

AI Overview

The Belman Shri Durga Parameshwari Temple (also known as Vana Durga) is **an ancient 7th-century shrine in Belmannu village, Udupi district**. Located midway between Padubidri and Karkala, it is famous for its serene, "jungle-like" green surroundings and the oldest known Kannada copper plate inscription. [1, 2, 3]

Key Details & Planning

- **Location:** Belmannu, Karkala Taluk, Udupi District, Karnataka 576111
- **Distance:** About 18 km from Karkala and 12-15 km from the Mangalore-Udupi highway turnoff at Padubidri.
- **Historical Significance:** The temple was constructed before 7th Century AD. In 1952, the oldest Kannada copper plate was unearthed beneath its foundation.
- **Deity:** Dedicated to Goddess Durga, who is revered here as **Vana Durga** ("Durga of the Forest") due to the dense greenery enveloping the shrine. Rakteshwari is also worshiped as the main Bhuta here. [1, 2, 5]

You can find more reviews, opening hours, and location specifics on Trip.com. [6, 7]

AI responses may include mistakes.

[1] https://www.facebook.com/MUNDKUR35/posts/belman-shri-durga-parameshwari-templebelmannu-is-a-small-village-that-lies-almos/712988818818826/
[2] https://anandatirtha.wordpress.com/2009/07/17/belmannu-temples-of-tulu-nadu/
[3] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belman,_Karkal
[4] https://www.justdial.com/Udupi/Temples-in-Belmannu/nct-10475644
[5] https://kalyangeetha.wordpress.com/tag/durga-parameshwari-temples-of-coastal-karnataka/
[6] https://au.trip.com/travel-guide/attraction/udupi/shri-durgaparameshwari-temple-belman-142401907/
[7] https://us.trip.com/travel-guide/attraction/udupi/shri-durgaparameshwari-temple-belman-142401907/

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Ref: AI Overview

The ancient Shri Durga Parameshwari Temple in Belmannu (Belman), Karnataka, is revered as "Vana Durga" or the Goddess of the Forest, due to its lush, jungle surroundings. **Dating back to the 7th century AD, it is famous for a historic miracle legend**. [1, 2]

The Legend of the Udbhavalinga

According to the temple lore, the area was once inhabited by a poor couple, Kantu and Kaldi, who made their living by fishing and cane work. One day, while Kaldi was using a stone to sharpen her knife, she was shocked to see blood oozing from the stone. Overcome by fear at this strange happening (*vichitra sambhava*), she collapsed and died on the spot. [1, 3]

It was later revealed that the stone she had been sharpening was a sacred *Udbhavalinga*—a self-manifested form of Goddess Durga. The Goddess had chosen this spot to reside in the form of a linga, cementing the site's holiness and prompting the construction of the shrine. [1, 4]

Historical Significance

- **Antiquity:** The temple's roots extend past the 7th century, making it one of the oldest sacred sites in the region.
- **The Copper Plate:** During foundation excavations in 1952, the oldest-known Kannada copper plate inscription was discovered beneath the temple. Dating back to the 8th century AD, the artifact documents administrative rights granted to the local Belmannu Village Council, proving the temple was a prominent socio-political hub.
- **Deities:** Along with the presiding deity Shri Durga Parameshwari, the temple complex features a shrine for Shri Ganapati, alongside revered local *bhutas* (divine spirits) such as Rakteshwari. [7]

You can read more about the temple's lore on the Shri Durgaparameshwari Temple history page or explore its heritage details on the Wikipedia Belman, Karkal entry.

AI responses may include mistakes.

[1] https://kalyangeetha.wordpress.com/tag/belman/
[2] https://kalyangeetha.wordpress.com/tag/durga-parameshwari-temples-of-coastal-karnataka/
[3] https://shridurgaparameshwari.org/index.php?route=frontend/history
[4] https://blessingsonthenet.com/indian-temple/article/1105/history-of-durgaparmeshwari-temple
[5] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Belman,_Karkal
[6] https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/22308075251382983
[7] https://anandatirtha.wordpress.com/2009/07/17/belmannu-temples-of-tulu-nadu/

Ref: Google Gemini

Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, (also known as Vanadurga temple), Udupi District. Karnataka

Info is given under following headings:

Location, how to get there, speciality of this temple, history and legends, architecture, main deity and subdeities, daily rituals and poojas and their charges, special poojas and their charges, festivals celebrated, facilities available for devotees such as accommodation, do's and don'ts, nearby temples, nearby hotels, nearby tourist spots, donation info with contact phone number, any other info...etc

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Here is the detailed information regarding the historic **Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple** (popularly known as the **Vanadurga Temple**), arranged under above requested headings:

Location

The temple is situated in the serene village of **Belman** (also spelled Belmannu), which belongs to the Karkala Taluk of the Udupi District in coastal Karnataka, India. It lies beautifully nestled amidst dense, lush greenery that naturally forms a tranquil forest-like setting.

How to Get There

- **By Road:** Belman is located almost midway along the Padubidri–Karkala stretch (State Highway 1). From the Mangalore–Udupi National Highway (NH 66), take a turn at Padubidri and travel approximately 12–15 km inland to reach Belman. The temple is a short distance from the main Belman junction.
- **By Rail:** The nearest railway stations are at **Padubidri** (local trains) and **Indrali, Udupi** or **Surathkal** for major express trains.
- **By Air:** The closest airport is **Mangaluru International Airport (IXE)**, located about 35–40 km away.

Speciality of this Temple

The primary speciality of this shrine is its unique natural environment, earning the deity the revered title of **"Vanadurga"** (Durga of the Forest). Historically, the temple is exceptionally prominent in Karnataka's epigraphical history: it is the site where the famous **Belmannu Copper Plate Inscriptions** were discovered in 1952 underneath the temple's foundations. Dating back to the late 7th or early 8th century CE (belonging to the Alupa dynasty), these plates are recognized as the earliest copper plate inscriptions found in the region.

History and Legends

The temple boasts a rich history stretching back over 1,300 years. According to regional historical records and legends, the local area was deeply connected to the early Alupa rulers who heavily patronized Shakti worship across Tulu Nadu. Legend has it that the temple was established to invoke the protective "Soumya" (benevolent) yet powerful forest form of the Divine Mother to protect the surrounding settlements from wild elements and modern afflictions. The traditional priesthood of the temple has uniquely belonged to families of the **Bhargava Gotra** for generations.

Architecture

The temple exhibits the classic traditional **Coastal Karnataka (Tulu Nadu) style** of temple architecture. It features a spacious *Prangana* (outer courtyard) designed to accommodate large numbers of devotees during festivals. The structures have undergone careful renovations to preserve their heritage value, incorporating elegant sloping roofs suited for heavy coastal monsoons, a defined *Suthu Pauli* (outer cloister), and a beautifully carved wooden *Mantapa*.

Main Deity and Subdeities

- **Main Deity:** Goddess **Sri Durgaparameshwari**, worshipped here in the majestic form of *Vanadurga*.
- **Subdeities & Daivas: Lord Ganapati** is consecrated inside the inner parikrama. True to the spiritual traditions of Tulu Nadu, the temple honors powerful guardian spirits (*Rajan Daivas*), with **Goddess Rakteshwari** being the primary *Bhuta* associated with the temple shrines.

Daily Rituals, Special Poojas, and Charges

The temple performs traditional daily pujas comprising morning, noon, and evening *Alankara* and *Maha Mangalarathi*.

- **Daily Rituals:** Include *Kshipra Prasadha Pooja*, *Kumkumarchana*, and *Ranga Pooja*.
- **Special Occasions:** Mass offerings like *Chandika Havana*, *Shashwatha Pooja*, and *Kartika Deepotsava* are conducted periodically.
- *Note on Charges:* The exact current seva list and token prices fluctuate based on the decisions of the hereditary trustees/managing committee. Visitors can verify the updated official rates directly at the temple's counter upon arrival.

Festivals Celebrated

- **Annual Jathre (L भीषोत्सव / Lakshadeepotsava):** The grand annual chariot festival and festival of lights are celebrated with massive local participation.
- **Navaratri:** The nine nights of Dasara are celebrated with exquisite daily floral and jewel decorations (*Alankaras*) representing different manifestations of the Goddess, concluding with an *Anna Santarpane* (grand community feast).

- **Dhanurmasa Pooja & Ugadi:** Observed with special dawn prayers and traditional readings.

Facilities Available for Devotees

- **Anna Prasadam:** The temple arranges free community lunch meals for visiting devotees during specific festival seasons and designated weekdays.
- **Parking & Amenities:** A vast, clear parking layout is available for private vehicles. Clean restroom amenities are accessible near the entrance.

Do's and Don'ts

- **Dress Code:** Devotees are expected to dress in modest, traditional Indian attire. Men are usually required to remove their shirts before entering the *Garbhagriha* (inner sanctum) perimeter during core puja hours.
- **Photography:** Photography and video recording inside the inner sanctum are strictly prohibited to preserve sanctity.
- **Sanctity:** Maintain silence and adhere to cleanliness guidelines inside the eco-sensitive forest layout of the temple grounds.

Nearby Temples

Due to its central location on the spiritual route of coastal Karnataka, you can easily combine a visit with:

1. **Sooda Sri Subramanya Temple** (approx. 6 km away)
2. **Mundkur Shri Durga Parameshwari Temple** (approx. 4 km away)
3. **Nandalike Mahalingeshwara Temple** (approx. 5 km away)
4. **Kateel Shri Durgaparameshwari Temple** (approx. 20 km south)

Nearby Hotels and Accommodation

While the temple caters primarily to day pilgrims, excellent lodging options are available in the vicinity:

- **In Belman:** *Krushna Boarding and Lodging* offers immediate stay options.
- **In Nitte / Karkala (10–12 km away):** *Ratna Forever Nitte* and *Hotel Swagath* offer robust mid-range stays.
- **Resorts:** *The Estate Resort* (Moodbidri) and local homestays offer luxurious accommodation options within a 12–15 km radius.

Nearby Tourist Spots

- **Kaup Beach & Lighthouse:** Located roughly 22 km away, ideal for evening sunsets.
- **Padubidri Blue Flag Beach:** Safe, certified eco-beach around 15 km away.
- **Karkala Monolithic Statue of Lord Bahubali (Gommateshwara):** A major heritage site located about 16 km away.

Donation Info and Contact

Devotees wishing to contribute towards the temple's maintenance, daily *Anna Dasoha*, or cultural activities can make inquiries at the office administration desk.

- **Contact Number:** +91-8258-267967 *(Office hours vary, preferably contact during morning or evening darshan hours).*

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Ref: GrokAI

Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, (also known as Vanadurga temple), Udupi District. Karnataka

****Location****:

Belman (also spelled Belmannu or Belman) Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, also known as Vanadurga Temple, is located in Belmannu village, Karkala Taluk, Udupi District, Karnataka. PIN: 576111. It lies roughly midway between Padubidri and Karkala, along or near the state highway connecting Padubidri and Karkala (or related routes toward Kudremukh). The temple is surrounded by lush greenery and forests, giving it the "Vana Durga" (Forest Durga) name.

****How to get there****:

- By road: Approximately 33 km from Udupi, 50 km from Mangalore, 12-18 km from Padubidri or Karkala. It is accessible via the Mangalore-Udupi highway (turn at Padubidri) or state highways. Buses and taxis are available from Udupi, Mangalore, or Karkala.

- Nearest major transport hubs: Udupi or Mangalore airports/railway stations, then road travel. The village has a bus stand.

****Speciality of this temple****:

The temple is known for its serene, forest-like setting (Vana Durga), peaceful atmosphere, and ancient origins. It features a large prangana (courtyard) and is associated with powerful Devi worship. Priests are traditionally from the Bhargava Gotra. A notable aspect includes historical tolerance, with mentions in some contexts of broader community participation (though specifics vary). It is one of the Durga Parameshwari temples in Coastal Karnataka/Tulunadu.

****History and legends****:

The temple is believed to date back to before the 7th century AD (possibly constructed around then or earlier), with an 8th-century Kannada copper plate inscription (one of the oldest found in Karnataka) discovered under its foundation in 1952. The inscription relates to rights granted to the village council, which operated from the temple. Legends tie it to the

goddess appearing or being associated with the forested area; the place name "Belmannu" derives from "belli mannu" (silver soil). It is revered as Vana Durga due to its jungle-like surroundings.

****Architecture****:

The temple has undergone renovations but retains traditional elements. It includes a Garbhagudi (sanctum), Tirtha Mantapa, large prangana, and entrance features. The structure blends with the natural forest setting, creating a unique, serene ambiance. Sub-shrines or associated structures for other deities/Bhutas are present.

****Main deity and subdeities****:

- Main deity: Sri Durgaparameshwari (Vanadurga).
- Subdeities: Sri Ganapati. Associated with Bhutas like Rakteshwari (main Bhuta) and other Rajan Daivas.

****Daily rituals and poojas and their charges****:

Typical timings (subject to change; confirm locally): Around 5:30/6:00 AM – 1:00 PM and 4:00/6:00 PM – 8:00/9:00 PM. Morning abhisheka, offerings like Hannu Kai, Avalakki Panchakajjaya, and pooja are performed. General entry/darshan is free; charges apply for special poojas and abhishekams (specific current rates not widely listed online—contact the temple).

****Special poojas and their charges****:

Special poojas and abhishekams incur charges (details best obtained directly from the temple). Mandala Pooja is a significant observance.

****Festivals celebrated****:

- Major ones include Mandala Pooja Mahotsava (one of three key annual celebrations), annual festival around March-April (5 days, starting on Mesha Sankramana/Sun entering Aries), Navaratri, Maha Shivaratri, and Kartika Masam pujas. Deepotsava and other events also occur.

****Facilities available for devotees such as accommodation****:

Limited on-site details available; devotees typically use nearby options in Udupi, Karkala, or Padubidri. The temple area emphasizes serenity over extensive facilities. Check with the temple for any dharmashala or basic arrangements.

****Do's and don'ts****:

Standard temple etiquette applies—maintain silence, dress modestly, remove footwear, avoid non-vegetarian items/alcohol, follow priest instructions, and respect the sacred

forest-like environment. No specific unique rules prominently listed, but cleanliness and devotion are emphasized.

****Nearby temples****:

Nandikur Durga Parameshwari Temple, Bola Mrutyunjaya Ruda Somanatha Temple, Nandalike Mahalingeshwara Temple, and others in Karkala/Udupi region (e.g., Mundkur, Kateel).

****Nearby hotels****:

Options in Udupi, Karkala, Padubidri, or Mangalore (e.g., various budget and mid-range hotels). No prominent on-site luxury hotels; check platforms like Justdial or local listings for Belmannu-area stays.

****Nearby tourist spots****:

Karkala (famous for Jain temples and Gomateshwara statue), Udupi (Krishna Temple, beaches), Padubidri, and natural spots along the highways or Western Ghats foothills. The temple's own forest setting is a highlight.

****Donation info with contact phone number****:

Donations/support for poojas, festivals, or maintenance can be made at the temple. Contact: Sri B M Krishna Bhat (Managing Trustee, older reference: 9241943581—verify currency). Temple address: Belmannu Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, Belmannu Village, Karkala Taluk, Udupi District – 576111. For latest pooja bookings/charges, call or visit.

****Any other info****:

The temple offers a peaceful darshan experience ideal for those seeking Devi's blessings in a natural setting. It is part of the rich heritage of Tulunadu/Shakti temples in Coastal Karnataka. Information on exact current pooja rates, online booking, or facilities is best confirmed directly, as details can change. Visitors praise its greenery and tranquility. Always check for updated timings and events.

For the most accurate and current details, contact the temple authorities directly, as web sources provide historical and general overviews. Safe travels!

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Ref: ClaudeAI

Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, (also known as Vanadurga temple), Udupi District. Karnataka

Here's a compiled profile of the Belman (Belmannu) Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, also known as Vanadurga Temple, based on available sources.

Location

Belmannu (Belman) village, Karkala Taluk, Udupi District, Karnataka – Pincode 576111. Located on the Padubidri–Karkala road, roughly midway between the two towns. The temple is about 33 km from Udupi and 50 km from Mangalore. (WordPress)

How to Get There

- From Udupi/Kundapur (NH66): Take a turn to Barkur at Akashvani road from NH 66, then a right at Barkur; it's about 13 km from the NH66 turn. Buses and autos are available on this route. (Tripadvisor) This route takes roughly 40 minutes–1.5 hours depending on start point.
- From Padubidri: Belmannu is about 12–15 km from Padubidri after turning right on the Mangalore–Udupi highway at Padubidri. (Wordpress)
- From Mundkur: Take a right at Kodimar bus stop on the Mundkur–Belman main road (a shortcut mentioned by local devotees).
- Regular buses and auto-rickshaws connect Belman to Udupi, Karkala, and Brahmavar.

Speciality of the Temple

- The presiding Goddess is worshipped as "Vana Durga" — the Durga of the Forest — because the temple sits amid dense greenery, almost like being in the middle of a jungle. (Wordpress)
- Friday's "Huvena Pooje" (flower decoration seva) is considered a special highlight of the temple. (Wikimapia)
- A comment notes Payasa Seva as another speciality associated with the temple.
- A large rock behind the shrine is said to grow year by year; when trustees once tried to cut it to ease pradakshina (circumambulation), it reportedly began to "bleed," and a divine consultation (Prashna) revealed the rock had taken the form of the tiger — Durga's vehicle — residing with the Goddess. (WordPress)
- The Goddess here is referred to as "Mugdha Kshipra Prasadini" (one who quickly grants boons) by devotees.

History and Legends

- Belmannu is famous for the temple, said to be built before the 7th century AD. (Wikipedia)

- The temple has a history of nearly 1,300 years, and the oldest copper-plate inscription in the Kannada language, dated to the 8th century CE, was unearthed here in 1952. (Wikimapia)
- The inscription records rights granted to the Belmannu Village Council, which functioned from the temple and likely oversaw its administration; since the inscription itself is 8th-century, the temple is believed to predate it. (Wikipedia) This makes it one of the earliest datable Durga shrines in Udupi district.
- The name Belmannu comes from Kannada Bellimannu — "silver (belli) soil (mannu)."
- Devotees recall the temple being significantly renovated in more recent decades, with local priest Madhvaraya Bhat widely credited for its restoration and upkeep.

Architecture

- The temple has been renovated in recent years and presents a clean, well-maintained structure surrounded by thick forest — visitors often describe a strong sense of serenity and natural sanctity around the shrine.
- Guest accommodation and a dining hall are built adjacent to the main shrine.
- Detailed architectural specifics (Tulunadu-style garbhagriha, mantapa layout, etc.) aren't documented in publicly available sources — the temple office can provide these on visit.

Main Deity and Sub-deities

- Main deity: Sri Durgaparameshwari (Vana Durga)
- Sub-deity: Sri Ganapati, whose idol is also enshrined in the temple. (Wordpress)
- Devotee accounts (from the sister Mandarthi/related Durga shrines in the region — worth verifying on-site for Belman specifically) suggest subsidiary shrines for Shiva and Subramanya are common in temples of this Durga tradition, but this hasn't been confirmed specifically for Belman.

Daily Rituals, Poojas, Special Poojas & Charges

Specific published tariffs for Belman's sevas aren't available online. What's known:

- Daily morning and evening poojas are conducted, along with Friday's Huvena Pooje as a special weekly ritual.
- Mandala Pooja and Arata are the two major annual village festivals (see below).
- Reviewers mention the temple offers "many sevas" for devotees.
- Free meals (prasada) are served daily — lunch around 1 PM and dinner around 8 PM — to all visiting devotees.
- For exact seva names and charges, it's best to call the temple/trustee directly (contact below), as these are typically posted only at the temple notice board.

Festivals Celebrated

Mandala Pooja — held annually at the beginning of the year (January) (Wikimapia)
Arata (the annual jathra/car festival) — held in March (Wikimapia)
Ganesh Chaturthi is also observed with special decorations.

Navaratri is very likely celebrated given the Durga tradition, though not explicitly confirmed in sources.

Facilities for Devotees

- **Accommodation**: A small guesthouse behind/near the temple with about 15–20 rooms is available for devotees, though availability isn't guaranteed and rooms are basic (one reviewer cited a nominal rate around ₹100/day for a small room). Some recent reviewers describe "comfortable rooms" — standards may have improved with renovation.
- **Food**: Meals are served for all visitors — lunch at 1 PM and dinner at 8 PM. (Tripadvisor) Some reviews mention all three meals are provided.
- **Connectivity**: Bus and auto-rickshaw facilities are available to reach the temple. (Tripadvisor)
- No long queues typically — a peaceful, uncrowded darshan experience is commonly reported.

Do's and Don'ts (general temple etiquette — confirm locally)

- Dress modestly/traditionally; avoid shorts, sleeveless, or revealing clothing.
- Remove footwear before entering the temple premises.
- Avoid leather/animal-skin items inside the shrine area.
- Maintain silence and decorum near the sanctum.
- Photography inside the garbhagriha is usually restricted — check with temple staff.

Nearby Temples

Nandikur Durga Parameshwari Temple, Bola Mrutyunjaya Rudra Somanatha Temple, and Nandalike Mahalingeshwara Temple (Wordpress) are all noted as nearby shrines. Karinjeshwara Shiva & Parvati Temple (~37 km) is also in the region.

Nearby Tourist Spots

- Gadha Theertha — a sacred water spot ~3 km away, associated with the legend of Bhima's mace from the Mahabharata.
- Barkur — a historic town with numerous ancient temples, ~13 km away.
- Karkala — known for the Gomateshwara (Bahubali) statue and Jain basadis.
- Padubidri Beach — a popular coastal spot on the way from the highway turn.

Nearby Hotels

Belman itself has very limited lodging beyond the temple's own guesthouse. For more options:

- Hotels/lodges in Karkala and Udupi city (30+ km away) offer a much wider range, from budget to mid-range.
- Nearer options may exist in Brahmavar or Padubidri, which are closer highway towns.

Donation Info & Contact

- **Contact**: Sri B. M. Krishna Bhat, Managing Trustee — Ph: 9241943581 (Wordpress)
- No verified online donation portal or bank account details were found in public sources — several devotees online have also asked for this. **Recommend calling the trustee number above directly** to get current bank/NEFT details for donations, or donate in person at the temple counter.

Other Notes

- The forest setting and relative lack of commercialization are frequently cited by visitors as what makes Belman distinct compared to larger, more crowded Durga temples like Kateel or Mandarthi in the same region.
- Since some details (timings, room availability, seva prices) change and aren't fully documented online, calling ahead is strongly advisable, especially if traveling from far or planning to stay overnight.

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Ref: ChatGPT

Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, (also known as Vanadurga temple), Udupi District. Karnataka

1. Location

Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple, popularly known as **Vanadurga Temple**, is situated at **Belman**, Karkala Taluk, Udupi District, Karnataka.

- Distance from Udupi: about **32 km**
- Distance from Karkala: about **18 km**
- Distance from Mangaluru: about **48 km**
- Nearest Railway Station: Udupi (Konkan Railway)
- Nearest Airport: Mangaluru International Airport (about 45–50 km)

The temple is located amidst beautiful greenery and paddy fields, giving devotees a peaceful and spiritually uplifting atmosphere.

2. How to Reach

By Road

Regular KSRTC and private buses connect Belman with Udupi, Karkala, Moodbidri and Mangaluru.

By Rail

Reach Udupi Railway Station and continue by taxi or bus.

By Air

The nearest airport is Mangaluru International Airport.

3. Speciality of the Temple

The temple is famous as one of the important **Shakti temples** of coastal Karnataka.

Some special features are:

- Goddess worshipped as **Sri Vanadurga (Durgaparameshwari)**.
- Considered a powerful protector of devotees.
- Surrounded by lush natural beauty.
- Thousands visit seeking relief from family problems, health issues and obstacles.
- Known for fulfillment of sincere prayers.
- Strong tradition of **Daiva worship** associated with Tulu culture.
- The temple attracts devotees from Karnataka, Kerala and neighbouring states.

4. History and Legends

Although the exact date of construction is not known, the temple is believed to be several centuries old.

According to local tradition:

- The Goddess manifested herself in this forest region to protect people from evil forces.
- Since the temple originally stood amidst dense forests, the deity came to be known as **Vanadurga** ("Goddess of the Forest").
- Local rulers and devotees gradually developed the shrine into the present temple.
- Many miraculous incidents connected with the Goddess are narrated by devotees, strengthening faith in her divine grace.

5. Architecture

The temple follows traditional **coastal Karnataka temple architecture**.

Features include:

- Beautiful entrance

- Traditional Kerala-style tiled roofs
- Spacious prayer hall
- Sanctum (Garbhagriha)
- Navaranga
- Bali Peetha
- Dwajasthamba (Flagstaff)
- Deepasthamba
- Well-maintained temple premises
- Ancient trees enhancing the serene atmosphere

6. Main Deity

Sri Durgaparameshwari (Vanadurga)

The Goddess is worshipped as:

- Divine Mother
- Protector of devotees
- Destroyer of evil
- Bestower of courage, prosperity and health

7. Sub-Deities

The temple also has shrines dedicated to:

- Lord Ganesha
- Lord Subrahmanya
- Naga Devatas
- Navagrahas
- Guardian Deities (Kshetrapalas)

(Some shrines may vary according to temple renovations.)

8. Daily Rituals and Poojas

Typical daily worship includes:

- Suprabhata Seva
- Nirmalya
- Abhisheka
- Alankara
- Archana
- Mahapooja
- Deeparadhana

- Mangalarati
- Prasada distribution

Temple timings are generally:

- Morning: around **6.00 AM – 1.00 PM**
- Evening: around **5.00 PM – 8.30 PM**

(Timings may vary on festival days.)

9. Pooja Charges

The temple periodically revises seva charges.

Common sevas include:

- Archana
- Kumkumarchane
- Panchamrutha Abhisheka
- Alankara Seva
- Mahapooja
- Annadana Donation
- Deepa Seva
- Flower Seva

Note: Since charges are revised from time to time, devotees are advised to contact the temple office for the latest rates.

10. Special Poojas

Popular offerings include:

- Chandika Homa
- Navachandika Homa
- Durga Namaskara
- Kumkumarchane
- Rahu-related Shanti Poojas
- Ayushya Pooja
- Special Abhisheka
- Navaratri Special Sevas

11. Festivals Celebrated

Major festivals are:

- **Sharannavaratri (Navaratri)** – Grand annual festival
- Vijayadashami
- Deepavali
- Ugadi
- Makara Sankranti
- Annual Brahmotsava
- Rathotsava (Car Festival)
- Laksha Deepotsava
- Various Devi festivals throughout the year

Thousands of devotees participate during Navaratri.

12. Facilities Available

The temple provides:

- Spacious parking
- Queue system
- Drinking water
- Clean toilets
- Prasada counter
- Shoe stand
- Seating arrangements
- Temple office
- Annadana on selected occasions
- Shops selling flowers, coconuts and pooja materials

Accommodation inside the temple premises may be limited. Devotees generally stay in nearby towns such as Karkala, Udupi or Moodbidri.

13. Do's and Don'ts

Do's

- Wear decent traditional attire.
- Maintain silence inside the temple.
- Follow temple customs.
- Deposit footwear at the designated place.
- Keep the surroundings clean.

Don'ts

- Photography inside the sanctum unless permitted.
- Smoking or consumption of alcohol.
- Littering.

- Disturbing rituals.
- Entering restricted areas.

14. Nearby Temples

Some important nearby temples include:

- Sri Mahalingeshwara Temple, Karkala
- Sri Ananthashayana Temple, Karkala
- Sri Chaturmukha Basadi
- Moodbidri Thousand Pillar Jain Temple
- Kateel Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple
- Polali Sri Rajarajeshwari Temple
- Udupi Sri Krishna Temple

15. Nearby Hotels

At Belman and nearby areas:

- Small vegetarian restaurants near the temple
- Lodges in Karkala
- Hotels in Moodbidri
- Hotels in Udupi
- Hotels in Mangaluru

These towns offer accommodation ranging from budget lodges to comfortable hotels.

16. Nearby Tourist Attractions

- Karkala Gomateshwara Statue
- Chaturmukha Basadi
- Moodbidri Jain Heritage Sites
- Udupi Sri Krishna Temple
- Malpe Beach
- St. Mary's Island
- Kaup Beach and Lighthouse
- Manipal
- Kudremukh region (farther away)

17. Donations

Devotees may contribute towards:

- Annadana
- Temple renovation
- Daily poojas
- Festival sponsorship
- Gold and silver offerings
- General temple development

Donations are generally eligible for official receipts issued by the temple.

18. Contact Information

Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari (Vanadurga) Temple
Belman, Karkala Taluk
Udupi District, Karnataka

Temple Office: Please contact the temple office for the latest information regarding:

- Seva bookings
- Pooja charges
- Festival schedules
- Accommodation
- Donation details
- **Contact Number:** +91-8258-267967 *(Office hours vary, preferably contact during morning or evening darshan hours).*

19. Interesting Facts

- "Vana" means **forest**, hence the name **Vanadurga**.
- The temple is regarded as one of the spiritually powerful Devi temples in coastal Karnataka.
- The peaceful surroundings make it ideal for meditation and prayer.
- During Navaratri, the temple is beautifully decorated with flowers and lights, creating a vibrant devotional atmosphere.
- Many devotees undertake vows and return to offer thanks after their wishes are fulfilled.

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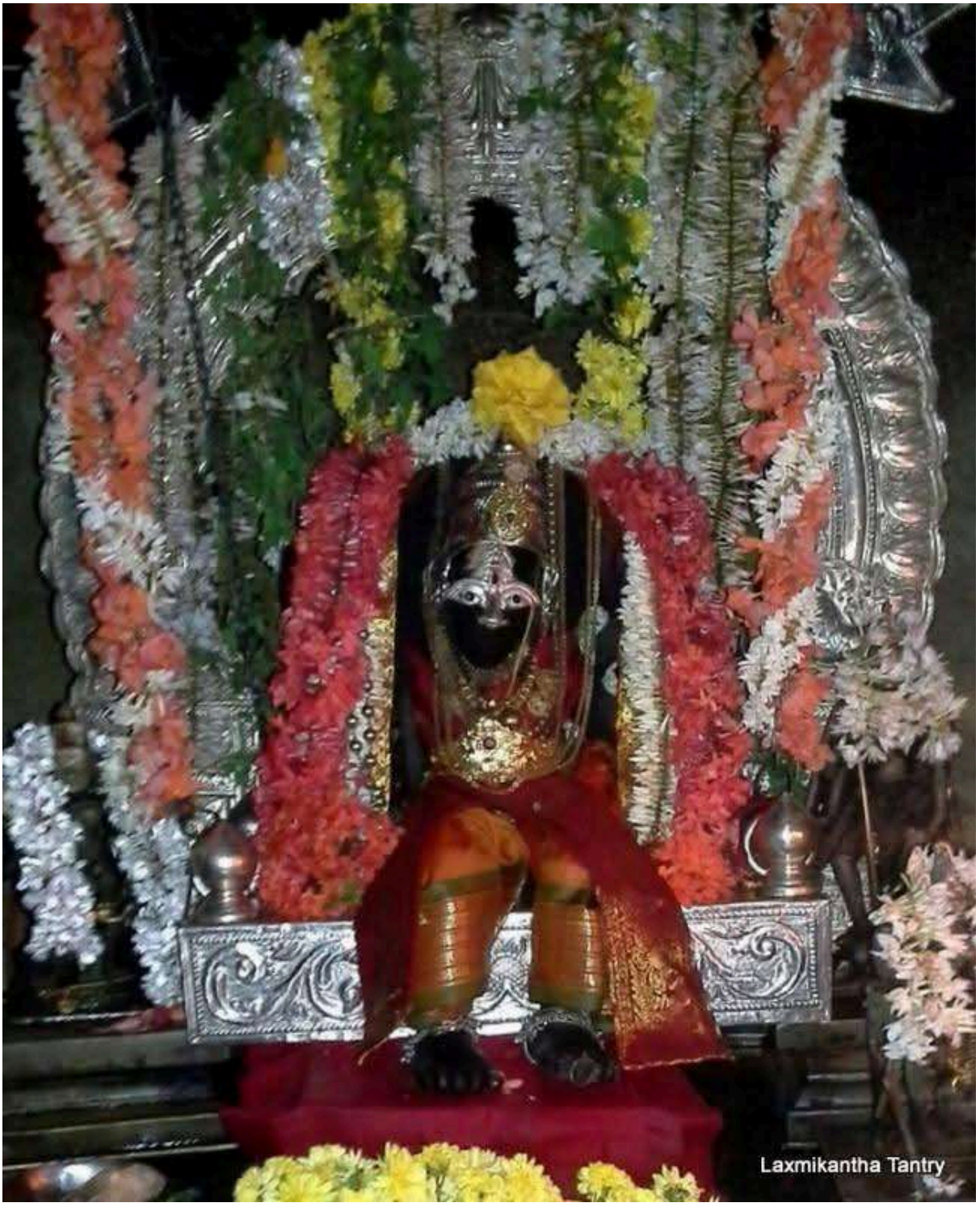
Ref: Photos



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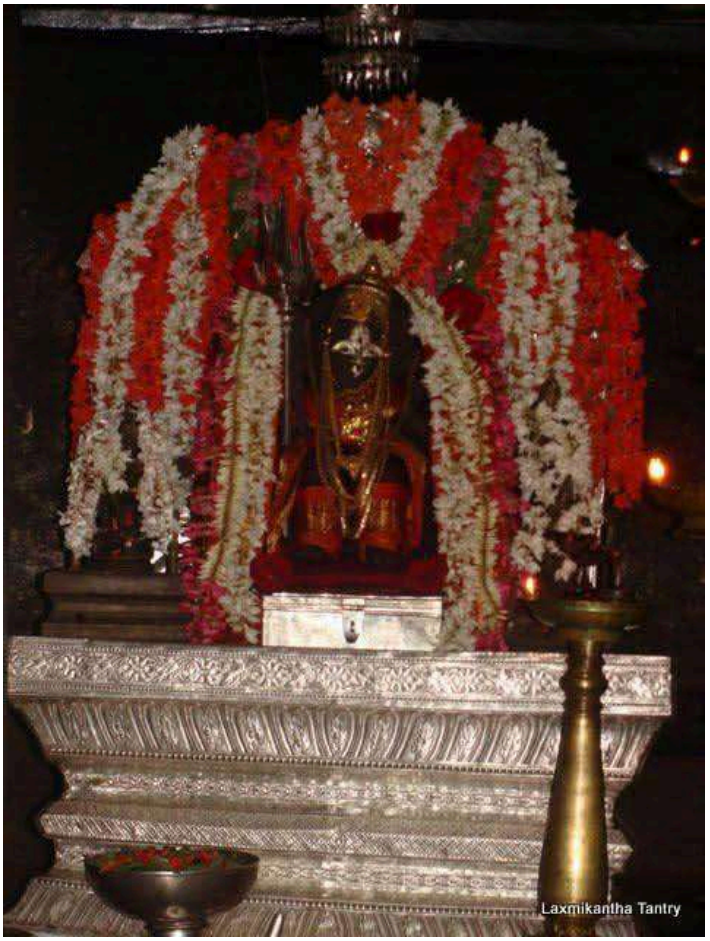
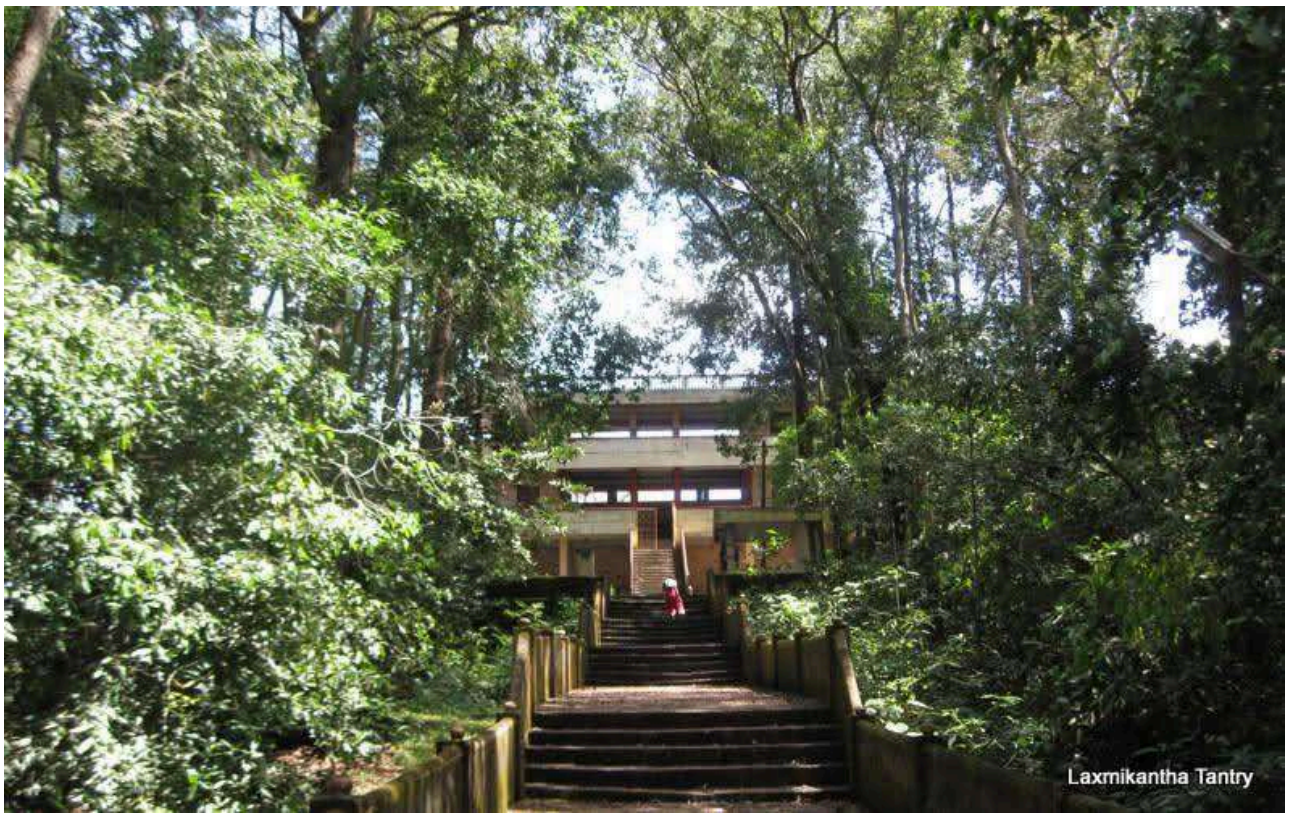

Laxmikantha Tantry



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Videos

Belman Temple history etc…by Karavali Mirror (10 min):

https://youtu.be/j1NDMSgRvrg?si=y565HWZk_6MUFADA

Navaratri in Belman Durgaparameshwari (Vanadurga) Temple (5 min):

https://youtu.be/ijVxOqpxGqY?si=ao1FoHnWisYa5Q4P

Belman Sri Durgaparameshwari Temple…Mandala Pooje 2020 (54 min):

https://youtu.be/BK07f4CUuNE?si=VJ6A7EflmF9HS1kO

Chakra suttu in Belman Temple (8 min):

https://youtu.be/P5o1J0dvr7s?si=ncbWY9NyTedHzfOn

Aaratu Utsava 2020 (8 min): https://youtu.be/9WfP1GvjSxY?si=S4MU7Z9izLLBELUo

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Note: At the end of this ebook, two pages are included (see below), giving (I) Author info, and (ii) a master link and QR code to download all my Technical (viz. Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering) ebooks plus Spiritual ebooks, stored in archive.org.

About the Author

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar is a Mechanical Engineer with specialization in Cryogenics. He obtained his B. E. In Mechanical Engineering from Karnataka Regional Engg College, (Now NITK), Surathkal, India and M.Sc. in Cryogenics from the University of Southampton, U.K., and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore.

He has worked in prestigious organizations such as BARC, Bombay and Centre for Advanced Technology (CAT), Indore,as Head of Cryogenics Dept and contributed to the design of cryogenic systems, including the Thermovac chamber for ISRO, Bangalore.

He was also a visiting fellow at Superconducting Super Collider Project, at Texas, USA.

He has also served as Professor, Head of Department, and Principal in reputed engineering institutions.

Dr. Thirumaleshwar has authored a large number of FREE ebooks on Engineering subjects such as Thermodynamics, Heat Transfer, and Cryogenic Engineering, which are useful for students and teachers.

Driven by a deep interest in India's spiritual heritage, he has also authored many FREE ebooks on Temples, Saints, Gurus, and Vedic topics, with the aim of preserving and spreading this knowledge to future generations.

All his ebooks are available for free download at Archive.org.

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Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar
July 14, 2026

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